

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fusion protein comprising
 - (i) at least one first domain comprising a ~~biologically active polypeptide~~ ligand-binding domain of the CD95 receptor fused to
 - (ii) a heterologous second domain comprising at least a portion of a constant immunoglobulin domain, ~~wherein there is at least one amino acid overlap between the first domain and the second domain in the fusion region~~ the fusion protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18.
- 2-8. (cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the at least one first domain is ~~derived~~ obtained from a human protein.
10. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the second domain comprises at least a portion of a constant heavy immunoglobulin domain.
11. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the second domain is an Fc fragment of a constant heavy immunoglobulin domain comprising the CH2 and CH3 domain ~~and optionally at least a part of the hinge region.~~
12. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the second domain comprises at least a portion of a constant IgG immunoglobulin domain.
13. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the second domain comprises at least a portion of a constant IgG1, IgG2, IgG3 or IgG4 immunoglobulin domain ~~or a variant thereof.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the immunoglobulin domain exhibits effector functions, ~~particularly effector functions selected from ADCC and/or CDC.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the second domain is ~~derived~~ obtained from a human immunoglobulin.

16-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the fusion region is free from a non-naturally occurring transition between the last amino acid of one domain and the first amino acid of the other domain.

19. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the first domain and/or second domain comprises a deletion of ~~preferably~~ up to 6 amino acids.

20. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the first domain and/or second domain comprises an addition of ~~preferably~~ up to 6 amino acids.

21. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, further comprising an N-terminal signal sequence.

22. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the fusion protein lacks an N-terminal signal sequence.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the first domain is the extracellular domain of human CD95.

25. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 24 wherein the extracellular domain of CD95 has the amino acid sequence up to amino acid 170, 171, 172 or 173 of human CD 95.

26. (Currently Amended) The fusion protein of claim 25 comprising ~~an amino acid sequence as shown in Figures 3A and 3B~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15.

27-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion protein of claim 1 ~~or a precursor thereof.~~

34. (Original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 33 which is operatively linked to an expression control sequence.

35. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 33 which is ~~located on~~ comprised in a vector.

36. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An isolated cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.

37. (Original) The cell of claim 36 which is a prokaryotic cell.

38. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim 36 which is a eukaryotic cell, ~~preferably a mammalian cell and more preferably a human cell.~~

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active agent a fusion protein of claim 1 ~~or a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.~~

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 41 wherein the first domain is ~~the~~ an extracellular CD95 domain.

43-51. (Cancelled)

52. (New) The fusion protein of claim 11, wherein the second domain is an Fc fragment of a constant heavy immunoglobulin domain comprising the CH2 and CH3 domain and a part of the hinge region.

53. (Previously Presented) The fusion protein of claim 14, wherein the effector functions are ADCC, CDC, or both.

54. (New) The cell of claim 36 which is a mammalian cell.

55. (New) The cell of claim 36 which is a human cell.

56. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.